

The Argus.

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PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

A Summary of Late Events That Are Boiled Down to Suit our Busy Readers

During 1899 eighteen divorce suits were filed in Kings county, of which thirteen were granted, one was refused and four are pending.

A new ten-stamp mill belonging to the Magnolia Mining Company has just begun operations at Baker City, Or., and is at present running night and day.

The Bakersfield Californian of Monday says: "A trainload of oranges, thirty-seven cars, went through this morning for Ogden and Portland. It was the largest orange train ever hauled out of the yard."

The Oakland Council has solved the question of the city garbage, deciding that it shall henceforth be taken, in barges, outside the heads, or carried to the old dumping ground at Stege. An ordinance will be before tonight's meeting of the Council that will prohibit dumping of garbage anywhere within the city limits.

Dr. J. W. Craig of Bloomington has just sold his holdings in that place, 250 acres, of which half is in fruit, to the Golden Fruit Land and Water Company, a syndicate of eastern capitalists, for the consideration of \$75,000. Dr. Craig is preparing to return to Europe, where he will resume his former profession of dentistry at Buda-Pesth.

Carnegie's Gift to Oakland.

OAKLAND, Jan. 18.—Andrew Carnegie today instructed the city of Oakland to draw upon him for \$50,000 for the new free library building, to be located upon the site purchased for the city by the ladies of the Ebell Society. Nothing is now left to begin the work of preparation of plans and constructing the building. This will be done at once.

BOHEMIAN INVITATION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Representative Julius Kahn of San Francisco, accompanied by the members of the California delegation in Congress, today presented the President a unique invitation engraved on a silver card from the Bohemians of America, asking him to attend a banquet at San Francisco on the 29th inst., the President's birthday. The President was compelled to decline the invitation. The Bohemians of America is a fraternal organization, with headquarters at San Francisco.

WAR ON HIGHBINDERS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—Through the influence of Consul Ho Yow, the Chinese Six Companies of this city have agreed to assist the police in terminating the highbinder war which has been raging in Chinatown for some time past. Today the Six Companies subscribed \$17,500, which will be offered as rewards for the apprehension of murderers. In return for this Chief of Police Biggby will guarantee the members of the Six Companies protection from the vengeance of the highbinders for the action they have taken.

ALLOWED TO LAND.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—The cabin passengers of the Doric were allowed to land tonight, but the vessel will be detained in quarantine until she has been thoroughly fumigated. When the Doric left Honolulu, nearly one hundred and fifty people had taken cabin passage on the Australia, which sails from Honolulu for San Francisco next Tuesday.

In order to get away by the mail boat, they had to keep themselves strictly away from the infected part of the town and present themselves each day for examination to Dr. Carmichael, United States quarantine officer.

PROTEST AGAINST IT.

British Columbia Mine Owners and Eight Hour Law.

Victoria (B. C.), Jan. 18.—A petition has been presented to the legislature from all the mines of West Kootenai, representing fifty millions of capital, seeking the repeal of the 8-hour law and declaring it has been prematurely and improperly introduced and had excluded capital and deprived mine owners of working at a profit. Its constitutionality is challenged and the declaration is made that unless it is repealed or amended it will be necessary to close the mines or cut the wages.

Minister MacInnes Quits His Pulpit Because He Believes in Drinking, Dancing and Other Things

OAKLAND, Jan. 20.—Rev. James C. MacInnes, pastor of the Oak Leaf Congregational Chapel, today announced his retirement from the ministry. Said he:

"I believe in dancing and a long list of other things that are tabooed by church-goers when indulged in by ministers. If a man needs a drink he has the right to take it. When I meet a man on the street I like to slap him on the back and say, 'Hello, there, Bill,' in a good hearty voice. I believe in God and Christianity, but the church is burdened with false ideas

and full of sinful hypocrites, and some of my friends who might be called 'lusers' are infinitely better than these frauds of piety.

"The ministry is no place for a young man who wants his personal liberty. He must use too much hypocrisy and overlook too much hypocrisy in others."

Disabled Employees' Benefit.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 13.—A. F. Hess of Waycross, Ga., a statistical expert of the Plant Railway system, one of the great roads of the South, has come here at the request of Collis P. Huntington to assist the Southern Pacific Company in creating an accident and life insurance department for the benefit of its officers and employees. It is to be voluntary with the men whether they take part in the new department.

In a general way, the idea is to have the men pay into the fund each month sums ranging from 50 cents to \$1.50. Their monthly payments will determine the amount of sick, accident and pension benefits they can receive; also the amount of insurance in case of death. The department is to provide for weekly benefits in case of sickness. The employee must have been sick for five days and have the nature of his illness certified to by one of the physicians of the company before he can receive sick benefits. Old employees will be retired on pensions.

MAIL CARRIER'S DIFFICULTIES IN ALASKA.

TACOMA (Wash.), Jan. 19.—[Exclusive Dispatch.] United States Mail-carrier Holcomb has arrived at Eagle from Valdez, completing his first winter trip as carrier of government mails from the sea to Yukon, a distance of 430 miles. J. A. Leonard, an Eagle business man, arrived at Dawson with the news.

Holcomb said he had a perilous voyage. He encountered many hardships. During the trip ten or twelve horses died, or had to be killed. He had a working force of eleven men, who were employed constructing cabins for mail stations. One was created every twenty miles. From now on the department hopes to give monthly mail service between Valdez and Eagle. One consignment of mail has already come out over the new route. From the coast terminus of the trail a telephone line extends seventy-five miles inland, and it is the intention of the government to extend the line through to Yukon next summer. Leonard learned from Holcomb that engineers are making a preliminary survey for a railroad from Valdez to Eagle.

Maj. Ray, commander of the military post at Eagle, has closed all gambling games there. He took this action after the arrest of five colored soldiers who were caught stealing flour and bacon from the commissary department with which to obtain money to wager at gambling tables.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

Washington, Jan. 18.—United States Minister Lersman to Switzerland, has cabled the state department that the Swiss government has revoked a former decision and gives general authorization for the importation of American fruits. It also authorizes the importation of fresh fruits, providing they are examined at Basle and found to be exempt from scale or other parasites.

WE MUST HAVE IT.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—[By Atlantic Cable.] The Daily Chronicle says editorially today:

"According to advices we have received from Washington, a canvass of the Senate and House of Representatives has placed it beyond dispute that Congress will not only pass the Nicaragua Canal Bill, but will pass it in a form directly at variance with the Clayton-Bulwer treaty."

"This is a statement of decided seriousness, and we hesitate to believe that the United States government will commit itself to a course which this country would have to regard as unfriendly."

FRANCE'S WINE OUTPUT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—Secretary Scott of the Chamber of Commerce is in receipt of a letter written in Paris by William M. Bunker of San Francisco, who is representing the chamber as its commissioner to the World's Fair. In writing of the output of wine and other products, Mr. Bunker gives some information of value to California vinticulturists. He says:

"Generally speaking, the year 1899 has been kind to France. The crops were planted, cultivated and harvested with the thoroughness peculiar to this people; the manufacturing industries were prosecuted with zeal and success, despite several large strikes, and the exports in eleven months of 1899 were \$13,000,000 greater than during a similar period of 1898."

"The wine product of 1899 is officially estimated at \$1,265,550,000. In 1898 the product was under 900,000,000 gallons. The value of wine exported is placed at \$884,000,000, and for imported wines, mostly from Spain, France paid \$60,000,000."

News comes of great activity in the rich copper mines at Ivanpah in the northeast corner of this county. The ore is very rich and a large number of men find work in abundance. The ore runs very high in copper, many assays showing 95 per cent, which makes such ore worth from \$40 to \$50 per ton. There are plenty of copper prospects in this county which will be developed into paying mines when capital takes hold of the work.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

The News of the State, Nation and the World

MOST INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

From Everywhere will be found in this Column. Items that Interest Everybody

Washington.—The total of the Lawton fund is now \$90,000.

According to the statement issued by the war department today, the total custom receipts at the port of Havana for the year ended Dec. 31, 1899, were \$1,072,114.79. The total value of imports into the port of Havana for the 11 months ending November, 1899, was \$52,189,738. Of this amount \$7,658,438 was gold and silver coin. The total of imports from the United States was \$19,746,318. The total amount of import duties collected during the year 1899 was \$8,500,582. The per cent collected on dutiable articles was 19.

TRADEGY IN A BANK.

Cashier Kills the Teller and Then Himself.

Columbus (Ga.), Jan. 19.—Captain J. W. Murphy, cashier of the Third National bank of this place, shot and killed the teller, P. T. Schultz, and then killed himself, soon after the bank opened today.

MULCTED CONDUCTORS.

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—In a circular which has been posted on the walls of the Pullman sub-office at the Union depot, a reduction in the wages of sleeping-car conductors is announced. The amount of the cut is said to be in many cases as much as 20 per cent. It is claimed that this reduction will place the wages of many of the oldest conductors back to the schedule at which they started.

Whether the reduction is to be made among all employees of the company, or is to be enforced only on some lines, is a question.

HEATHEN CITY.

Methodist Preachers' Meeting Hears Some Plain Truths.

New York, Jan. 19.—Miss Helen F. Clark of the Evangel band, addressing a Methodist preachers' meeting in this city on "The Religious Condition of New York City," said that as a heathen city New York can beat Tokio; that here there are 1,300,000 persons without any religious affiliation at all, which number is 100,000 more than the population of Tokio, the second largest heathen city in the world.

INNOCENT MAN HANGED.

SIOUX FALLS (S. D.), Jan. 20.—Information has reached here that Mrs. Van Horne, who recently died in the State of Washington, confessed on her deathbed that she murdered her mother, Mrs. Thomas Egan, near this city September 12, 1886.

For this crime Thomas Egan, the woman's husband, was hanged, although to the last protesting his innocence. Mrs. Van Horne was his stepdaughter. Egan's clothes were found in the barn covered with blood and this caused his conviction. The physicians at the hospital where Mrs. Van Horne died, took down her confession and sent it to Egan's relatives here.

TRAINMEN'S GRIEVANCES.

SUBJECT BEFORE CONFERENCE.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 19.—The Post-Dispatch today says that one of the most important conferences of railway working men since the great strike of 1894 began at the Laclede Hotel today behind closed doors. Its purpose is to consider grievances of service men.

Among those present and taking a prominent part in the deliberations are A. B. Garretson, chief of the Order of Railway Conductors; W. G. Lee, chief of railway trainmen; R. M. Arthur, chief of locomotive engineers, and P. A. Sargent, of railway firemen.

It is said the conference was called to adjust certain difficulties between railroads and their employees and to consider the advisability of asking a general sweeping increase in the wages paid to conductors, engineers, firemen and other trainmen.

TO FIGHT ENGLAND.

MANY AMERICANS OFFERED.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—George W. Van Sicken, treasurer of the American Transvaal fund, said today that between ten and twenty able-bodied young men applied in person to him every day to be sent to South Africa to fight on the Boer side in the war. "Since the war started," added Van Sicken, "there have been 1000 applications, by actual count, of men who want to go to the Transvaal and fight England. I have not got the money to send them, and would not send them if I could. What would be the use of my losing both men and money? The British cruisers would be sure to take the men off the ships before they could reach a South African port, and it costs \$240 for even a steerage ticket to Delagoa Bay."

"The only lawful thing we can do in this country is to send money to the widows and orphans of the Boers. But the men who call at my office and want to be sent out as recruits are an exceptionally fine lot of men. They are neither beggars nor tramps, but bright fellows whose sympathies are

entirely with the Boers. Many of them give up good positions and come on, expecting that I can send them to the front."

MURDERED THE JAILER.

TWO DESPERATE PRISONERS GAIN THEIR LIBERTY.

WESTPLAINS (Mo.), Jan. 17.—County Jailor Alfred Henry, while feeding the prisoners in the Howell County Jail today, was overpowered and killed by two prisoners, Ben Richardson and Ed Grady. Richardson was under sentence to the penitentiary for burglary and is an escaped convict from the Tennessee penitentiary.

Henry had gone to the jail to feed the prisoners and, not returning to his home at the accustomed time, his wife became anxious and sent a neighbor in search of him. His body was found in a pool of blood on the jail floor. The prisoners had escaped and locked the door after them. A posse was immediately organized and is scouring the woods. A reward of \$1000 is offered for their capture.

TWO NAVAL SCANDALS.

ABOUT OFFICERS AT MANILA.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.—A letter received from a naval officer at Manila, dated December 12, says that two scandals in the United States squadron are causing general talk. One is the shooting of a Filipino on board the Monadnock by Capt. McCowan, because the man climbed the side of the vessel forward instead of aft, as demanded by naval usage. It is maintained that the captain intended to fire over the man and scare him, but that he was hit in the hip and died soon afterward.

The other subject of comment is the fact that Commander S. W. Very of the Castine, up to the present time, has had every officer on the vessel, with one exception, under suspension, and one of them has objected. Although the authorities desire to quiet the proceedings, the officer will have to be heard, and the matter will be carried to the department at Washington.

TRADE IN THE ORIENT.

EX-CONSUL WILLIAMS'S VIEWS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—Oscar F. Williams, ex-consul at Manila, speaking last night of the mercantile opportunities opened in the Orient, said:

"To be candid with the American people and especially the American investor, I must express the opinion that development along commercial lines in the Philippines is not likely to attract American men and capitalists to any great extent. In Europe young men who cannot find work at home go out largely to the Orient and take with them the surplus capital of European States. It is easy for Europeans to add another link in their chain of enterprises and establish an agency, but if you had \$10,000 or \$100,000 you would rather put it into some enterprise quickened by the Spanish war than send it far from home to one with whom you could not daily confer."

"Our young men are all well employed at home and get better wages than the Europeans in the Orient. If we send young men abroad, they are likely to be those whom the business men of New York City have not put their hands on and marked for excellence."

"In regard to the open door, the world recognizes that wherever our flag floats justice has been ordained to exist. There is no more fear from the commerce of other nations in the Philippine Islands than in Boston or New York, for the whole world is on its knees today praying for peace with the United States."

LAWTON'S PLUCKY WIFE.

She Was His Best Helper and Once She Was Under Fire.

Lawton idolized his only son, Manley, his eldest child, now about 12 years of age. His wife and her three little girls had to go out to Manila in order that Manley could be with his father. The general insisted on making a soldier of the boy, and letters have frequently told that the general has had Manley out on the firing line or in the trenches with him. The boy is much like his father; strong, fearless and popular with the soldiers. Soon after reaching Manila his father insisted upon taking the boy with him on the Lugu Bay campaign. His persistence resulted in Mrs. Lawton's also accompanying the expedition, and at one time she was actually under fire.

She is said to be a brave little woman, the typical officer's wife. Lawton had just become a captain and was stationed at Santa Fe (N. M.), when Mary Craig came there from Louisville to visit friends in the service. Lawton fell desperately in love with her, and went to Louisville two years later and married her. After the Geronimo campaign, when he came to Washington, Lawton decided to settle down for a peaceful career in the staff. He bought about 30 acres and a little house near Falls Church (Va.), and here his children were born. But the little farm had almost slipped through his fingers when he went West as General Shafter's inspector general, and he exchanged for a young orange grove near Los Angeles, which is now said to be highly productive, its successful manager being a retired soldier from the Fourth Cavalry, who helped Lawton capture Geronimo.

Mrs. Lawton's accomplishments have always been most helpful to her husband, particularly in writing his reports he was a hater of books, an indifferent writer, and he was always joked about his spelling. Mrs. Lawton learned the typewriter, transcribed important documents from his rough notes and in the old days kept his accounts straight, until his rank gave

him clerks for that purpose. In recent years he was about the only inspector general who was invariably accompanied on his tours by a clerk.—New York Tribune.

SLEW HIS WIFE'S SEDUCER.

CAPT. MILLS ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE IN UTAH.

SALT LAKE (Utah), Jan. 20.—Capt. Frederick J. Mills, late Lieutenant-governor of Idaho, was today acquitted of the charge of murder. The jury was only out fifteen minutes, just long enough to elect a foreman and take a ballot. Such a finding was expected by everyone and the announcement of the result was followed by nothing sensational.

Capt. Mills was charged with the murder of John C. O'Melveny, chief engineer of the Oregon Short Line, in this city on October 3, last. The evidence showed that while the defendant was absent, serving as an officer in the volunteer army of the United States, his wife and O'Melveny became criminally intimate.

The defendant learned of these facts on the day of the tragedy, his wife making a full confession. The killing followed. The defendant pleaded the Utah statute which justifies the act of a husband who kills his wife's seducer, and also set up the plea of insanity.

MINES AND MINING.

FIGURES AT VARIANCE.

The director of the mint estimates the gold produced in California during 1899 at \$14,952,392, as against \$15,637,900 in 1898, or a decrease of \$685,508. The statistician of the mint in San Francisco places the yield of gold in 1899 at \$15,000,000 as against \$14,438,601 in 1898, an increase of \$561,399. Turning to the returns of the silver output, the same disagreement is noticeable between the figures of the director and the statistician. The former puts the yield of 1899 down at \$1,396,863, and that of 1898 at \$820,448; the latter credits the State with having yielded only \$636,000 last year and 415,394 the year before. While neither may be correct, it must be apparent to every one conversant with the mining industry in California that the director's estimates as to silver are certainly nearer the true mark than those of the statistician.

TEMBLOR'S RESULTS.

The San Bernardino Sun never fails to enthuse. Listen to this:

There is a promise of a mining boom on account of the Christmas temblor. Mining prospectors hope to derive advantage from it, as it is credited with having in some sections caused upheavals that exposed hitherto unsuspected ledges of mineral. Los Angeles dealers in miners' supplies, and the local assayers, have information that some important new prospecting is to be undertaken in regions where there has been considerable recent alteration of topographical features.

Thomas H. Tappen, a prospector in from a long trip on the desert, is said to have made an important discovery not far from Mt. Taquitz, the extinct volcano that seemed to be the center of the recent seismic disturbance. Tappen is said to have told a friend that at one point in the mountain an overhanging cliff was loosened by the earthquake and earth and rock went down in this landslide, leaving a clean face in the cliff, where, according to Tappen, rich veins of mineral were exposed. At other points there is said to have been great landslides that changed the configuration of the hills. In some places upon the eastern slopes near Mt. Taquitz the earth looks as though it had been shaken loose by the temblor.

Reports continue to come in regarding newly discovered geysers and spouting wells of water and oil. Some of these stories are confirmed.

MINING NOTES.

Reports from the Mazepa show that that mine's permanency and richness are assured. The ore bodies are large and rich throughout.

Cross-cutting to the hanging wall, drifting to the west and sinking the shaft are the present points of operation in the Little Wonder at Big Oak.

The mines of the Coffee creek region are in a decidedly flourishing condition, according to W. J. Hannon, manager of the Carrville branch of the McCormick-Saeltzer company.

The mill on the Arbona will be started up on the 1st. The force in the mine will be increased. The mine has been judiciously developed, and the immense quantity of ore and its known value insures profitable returns.

W. H. Thomas of New York, who, with several others of that State, is interested in the construction of the big smelting works in Madera county, is on his way to this state, where he will take part in the blowing in of the smelter.

The forty stamps at the Rawhide mine are dropping regularly. The work of sinking the shaft was discontinued upon reaching the 1,700 level. The mine is looking well. Sixty-five employees constitute the present working force.

The Golden Jubilee has been producing extra well during the past few months, and is now considered one of the best properties. Unless the weather becomes cold enough to freeze the water supply, the Golden Jubilee will be operated all winter.

The Sonora Banner's editor jumps with both feet on a mining corporation called the Carter's Gold Mining company. The editor does not decry the mine or its ores, but he seems to object, in pointed language, to the methods used by the company.